

practicable. The Committee is concerned that online privacy issues should also be addressed by the SBA in the implementation of the databases. Further, it is the Committee's opinion that the databases should be vigilantly maintained by the SBA to ensure that only firms eligible to be mentors should be included in the mentor database, and only those firms eligible to serve as intermediaries should be included in the intermediary database.

Paragraph (2) specifies that the Administrator may make grants as long as the coalition/combination of public and/or private entities provides an amount, either in kind or in cash, equal to the grant amount for the purposes delineated in paragraph (1) above.

The Committee is well aware that it may be difficult for some entities to raise their entire match during the application stage. Those entities that are unable to raise the required match, but have submitted to the Administrator a reasonable plan to meet the requirement, may be granted a conditional approval from the Administrator and be allowed to draw one dollar of federal matching funds for every dollar of private funds raised. This conditional approval shall be made with the expectation that the required funding commitments will be obtained within two years of the conditional approval.

The Committee believes that it is important to give entities the flexibility to obtain the required private operational assistance funds, however, from a safety and soundness standpoint, federal funds should not be placed at greater risk than private capital.

Paragraph (3) specifies the authorization for the program for fiscal years 2001 through 2003. This amount shall be \$6,600,000 for each of the three fiscal years.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. J. KEYS WRIGHT OF TRINITY, AL

#### HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Mr. J. Keys Wright of Trinity, Alabama. He has captured so poignantly the troubles we face today with explosions of ethnic cleansing and civil warfare across the globe.

Mr. Wright, an established poet in my district, wrote this poem "Sons" in January of 1995. It is especially appropriate to be heard now as we begin this new millennium and we are still plagued with daily new reports tallying the murders and assaults caused by hatred and misunderstanding. I would like for his words of wisdom to be printed, therefore, I submit the following into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for others to see and learn.

#### "Sons"

Sons of Mother Russia, Loyal  
Chechens, Brothers of Israel,  
Muslim, Christian, Irishman,  
Briton, Children of One God.  
Run Don't Walk Away from  
There, Leave these Fields of Death, Murder  
No One Else.  
Kill no Other Mother's Child  
Born of Love and Passion,  
Killed by Hate and Greed, To Satisfy an Ambitious Lie.  
Fight No More My Brothers,  
Our Children, Brothers of My

Soul, Leave Their Killing to Them.  
Their Hearts have Drawn and  
Withered, Their Minds are Dark  
And God, These Ones without A Soul.  
Sons of Mother Russia, Loyal  
Chechens, Brothers of Israel,  
Muslims, Christian, Irishman,  
Briton, Children of One God.

#### NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

#### HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to the attention of my colleagues, a thoughtful article by David Kreiger which appeared in *The Santa Barbara Independent*, entitled "An Open Letter to the Next U.S. President: Abolish Nuclear Weapons." I submit the following article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the *Santa Barbara Independent*, Oct. 12, 2000]

#### AN OPEN LETTER TO THE NEXT U.S. PRESIDENT: ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS (By David Kreiger)

The city of Hiroshima's Peace Declaration on August 6, 2000, stated, "If we had only one pencil we would continue to write first of the sanctity of human life and then of the need to abolish nuclear weapons." The citizens of Hiroshima have horrendous first-hand knowledge of the devastation of nuclear weapons. They become the unwitting ambassadors of the Nuclear Age.

If we wish to prevent Hiroshima's past from becoming our future, there must be leadership to reduce nuclear dangers by vigorous efforts leading to the total elimination of all nuclear weapons from Earth. This will not happen without U.S. leadership, and therefore your leadership, Mr. President, will be essential.

Also in the Peace Declaration of Hiroshima is this promise: "Hiroshima wishes to make a new start as a model city demonstrating the use of science and technology for human purposes. We will create a future in which Hiroshima itself is the embodiment of those 'human purposes.' We will create a 21st century in which Hiroshima's very existence formulates the substance of peace. Such a future would exemplify a genuine reconciliation between humankind and the science and technology that have endangered our continued survival."

With this promise and commitment, Hiroshima challenges not only itself, but all humanity to do more to achieve a "reconciliation between humankind and science and technology." The place where this challenge must begin is with the threat posed by nuclear weapons.

At the 2000 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, the U.S. and the other nuclear weapons states made an "unequivocal undertaking . . . to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." This commitment is consistent with the obligation in Article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and with the interpretation of that obligation as set forth unanimously by the International Court of Justice in its landmark 1996 opinion on the illegality of nuclear weapons.

In addition to moral and legal obligations to eliminate nuclear weapons, it is also in

our security interests. Nuclear weapons are the greatest threat to the existence of our nation and, for that matter, the rest of the world. The American people and all people would be safer in a world without nuclear weapons. The first step toward achieving such a world is publicly recognizing that it would be in our interest to do so. That would be a big step forward, one that no U.S. president has yet taken.

In the post-Cold War period, U.S. policy on nuclear weapons has been to maintain a two-tier structure of nuclear "haves" and "have-nots." We have moved slowly on nuclear arms reductions and have attempted (unsuccessfully) to prevent nuclear proliferation. We have not given up our own reliance on nuclear weapons, and we have resisted any attempts by NATO members to re-examine NATO nuclear policy.

One of the early decisions you will be asked to make, Mr. President, is on the deployment of a National Missile Defense. While this resurrection of the discredited "Star Wars" system will never be able to actually protect Americans, it will anger the Russians and Chinese, undermine existing arms control agreements, and most likely prevent future progress toward a nuclear weapons-free world. The Russians have stated clearly that if we proceed with deploying a National Missile Defense, they will withdraw from the START II Treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. This would be a major setback in U.S.-Russian relations at a time when Russia has every reason to work cooperatively with us for nuclear arms reductions.

In fact, Russian President Putin has offered to reduce to 1,500 the number of strategic nuclear weapons in START III. Well-informed Russians say that he is prepared to reduce Russia's nuclear arsenal to under 1,000 strategic weapons as a next step. We have turned down this proposal and told the Russian government that we are only prepared to reduce our nuclear arsenal to 2,000-2,500 strategic weapons in START III. This is hard to understand because reductions in nuclear weapons arsenals, particularly the Russian nuclear arsenal, would have such clear security benefits to the United States.

The Chinese currently have some 20 nuclear weapons capable of reaching U.S. territory. If we deploy a National Missile Defense, China has forewarned us that they will expand their nuclear capabilities. This would be easy for them to do, and it will certainly have adverse consequences for U.S.-Chinese relations. Additionally, it could trigger new nuclear arms races in Asia between China and India, and India and Pakistan.

North Korea has already indicated its willingness to cease development of its long-range missile program in exchange for the development assistance that they badly need. We should pursue similar policies with Iraq, Iran, and other potential enemies. We should vigorously pursue diplomacy that seeks to turn potential enemies into friends.

Rather than proceeding with deployment of a National Missile Defense, we should accept President Putin's offer and proceed with negotiations for START III nuclear arms reductions to some 1,000 to 1,500 strategic nuclear weapons on each side. Simultaneously, we should provide leadership for multinational negotiations among all nuclear weapons states for a Comprehensive Treaty to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons. This would be a demonstration of the "good faith" called for in the Non-Proliferation Treaty.